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DEBT THREATENS SYSTEM STABILITY: BANK, PG17

The world's largest global newspaper



Calgary Zoo investigates another animal death

RODENT Officials are investigating whether human error was the cause of another animal death at the Calgary Zoo.

Zoo management confirmed one of two capybara, the largest rodent in the world, died on Saturday, and officials are taking the incident very seriously, according to director of conservation Cathy Gaviller.

"Preliminary findings indicated that human error may have been a factor, therefore the individual involved was immediately reassigned to non-animal care duties pending the results of the investigation," she said.

she said.
"If human error is proven to have been a factor, appropriate action, including potential disciplinary measures, will be taken."

KRISTA SYLVESTER/METRO CALGARY



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Obama claims Nobel Prize





Shane Campbell, left, 11, Rodion Cuznetov, centre, 11, and Brixton Moore, 11, of the Simons Valley Shockwaves prepare to play their outdoor game at the Triwood Hockey Rink for the first-ever outdoor minor hockey tournament in Calgary this weekend.

Insurers to help foot tab for snow removal?

Alderman says proposal won't cost taxpayers 'a single cent'

DARREN KRAUSE darren.krause@metronews.ca

From the flurry of complaints over snowbound streets and isolated communities after recent winter storms, a new potential approach for funding improved snow clearing and removal has emerged.

Ward 8 Ald. John Mar said he believes the insurance industry has a vested interest in the safety and security of its clientele, and he's banking on its support for a plan to see insurers help

Petition

 A Facebook petition has been organized: "Petition silly hall for better snow removal in Calgary!"

foot the bill for future snow

clearing.

Administration will be asked to begin a dialogue with the insurance industry through Mar's notice of motion, which will appear before city council on Monday.

Mar said given the annual insurance payouts to repair

cars in collisions on city streets and protect homes from fires, like the recent Citadel blaze that destroyed five homes — with the difficulty city emergency crews had navigating impassable roads — he sees this proposal as a win-win.

"The best part ... is this doesn't cost the taxpayer a single cent," said Mar.

"This is a 'think-outsideof-the-box' look at best practices — what else can be done in a way that we can still provide the level of service we need, or increase the level of service?"

Mar cited other prece-

dents of insurance industry involvement as the impetus for the idea, noting insurance funding for the seeding of clouds during the summer storm season to protect crops

protect crops.

If the idea is approved,
Mar hopes administration
will report back to the Land
Use, Planning and Transportation meeting by February 2010 — with a partnership struck for winter 2010.

The Insurance Bureau of Canada and a regional insurance agency were contacted for comment, but Metro did not receive a response.

Charges in online luring cases

Celebrity Buzz

Simpson,

Corgan

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KRISTA SYLVESTER

CRIME Allegedly luring underage girls online for sexual purposes has landed two Calgary men in hot water with police in unrelated cases.

In the first case, 24-yearold Max Miller is facing numerous sex-related charges. Police allege he had sex with a 13-year-old girl he met in an online chat room while using the handle "Noway."

In the second case, 27year-old Kevin Thomas is charged with sex-related offences for allegedly having sex with a 14-year-old girl he met online. He is also alleged to have attempted to lure a second victim. Police say he used the online identity "9272" or "Keven."

"(Online) predators know where the kids are, and the key word here is predator. These are predators who know what they are doing," Staff Sgt. Leah Barber said.

"It's amazing how much information these predators get from the victims."

In both cases, Barber said the parents were monitoring Internet use and alerted police to the alleged incidents.

Staff Sgt. Steve Lorne said parents and children should talk about situations like these, and parents should ensure their children are using the Internet safely.



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Loca



Candle-lighting kicks off Hanukkah

Rabbi Menachem Matusof will join Mayor David Bronconnier Friday morning to light a candle that will be used to light the Menorah at a community ceremony next Tuesday. Friday evening is the first night of Hanukkah, an annual eight-day Jewish festival commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The 21st annual Community Menorah Lighting Ceremony takes place Dec. 15 at 5 p.m. in the city hall atrium.

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



ARORA, Mohinder Singh BISSON, Elena (nee Moroni) **BOETTGER**, Heinz Ernst COWIE, William (Bill) CUMIFORD, Donna Lynn DEL BELLO, Maria

DONALD, Margaret H. (Marg) (nee Phillips) DUSTIN, Maie Hiroko (nee Noda)

GASPAR, Milan GREY EYES, Janice (nee Calf Robe) HANSEN, Genevieve Olive Bertina HATCH. Ada Irene (nee Severn)

HEJNA, Jerry HEUCHERT. Edward Graham (Ted) JACQUES, Lena Henrietta (nee

HEBERT. Ginette Martina

JOHNSON, Doris Gertrude (nee

LANGE , Kenneth

LIGHTFOOT, Robert (Bob) John McGAFFIN, Geraldine (Geri) Helen (nee Andrews) MILLER, Vernon Edward

MUNRO, Hazel (formerly Brown) NOURSE. Lee Roy

OAKLEY, Beth Sanjean (Sandy) (nee Remund) (nee Remund) **PLUMMER**, Fred (Freddie) A.

PROSSER, Estella Avis (Perkins) RONDEAU, Paul Bernard Honore ROSS, Audrey Mary

SCHRAMM, Mary (nee Hanowski) TWA, Russell Maitland VETERE, Rosa (nee laquinta) WORTON, CECIL

For full obituaries go to CalgaryObits.com

Hit-and-run still unsolved

KRISTA SYLVESTER krista.sylvester@metronews.ca The wife of a 65-year-old

man run down and left for dead five years ago on a Calgary street is pleading for help in finding the driver.

Gerald Iervis was walking along the 2300 block of 50th St. SE at 9 p.m. on Dec. 10, 2004 when he was hit by a car and the driver left without helping the

Sandi Jervis issued a statement through police yesterday on the fifth anniversary of his death, pleading for witnesses to come forward.

"It has been five years since my husband and the father of our children was taken from us. To this day we still feel the pain of losing him so senselessly. His death has turned our lives upside down and contin-

ues to do so. "Two more children have come into our family. They will never know his



A picture of Gerald Jervis and his wife, Sandi. Gerald was killed in an apparent hit-and-run five years ago, and Sandi is pleading for more information to come forward

love, so please, if anyone knows who hit him and left him to die on the road please come forward and tell what you know."

Traffic Staff Sgt. Graeme Ramsay said he believes police will find the driver.

'There is a witness out there. There's someone who has worked on this vehicle. Somebody ... that saw something that happened that hasn't come

forward," he said. Ramsay said the area is

frequented by sex-trade workers and johns who may have saw something.

The car was an older model, red GM, possibly a Chevrolet Cavalier, and would have sustained dam-

News in brief

H1N1 Two of Calgary's six mass vaccination clinics will close at the end of working hours Friday — and not be re-opened. Alberta Health Services, who earlier this week told Metro Calgary no clinic closures were in the works, announced the decision to close the clinics at the South Calgary Health Centre and the Richmond Road Diagnostic and Treatment Centre in a release issued Thursday. All other clinics in the city will remain open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. until Dec. 12, closed on Dec. 13 and then open from noon to 7 p.m. from Dec. 14 to Dec. 17.

Calgary tweets

• @biancaterito Amazed! my condo overlooks a major intersection

in Calgary guaranteed weekly" there

either fatal/fender car crash, on the same corner!

to get halfway home from the airport? come on calgary drivers, at least put some* effort in

 @brentmielke Off to flood the community rink tonight and tomorrow night. The Flames would be lucky to skate on ice this good! #yyc

Report calls for better regulation of city's purchases

DARREN KRAUSE

darren.krause@metronews.ca

With 46,000 purchase orders worth \$1.35 billion issued annually, a city auditors report suggested a better framework was needed to ensure better control over purchasing.

The report, provided to the city's audit committee Thursday, suggested the city had "some elements" of effective purchasing governance, it was "piecemeal, dated and informal."

"There needs to be a real improvement in getting what we're calling a procurement framework es-tablished," said city auditor, Tracy McTaggart.

Without the framework, McTaggart's report states, "there is no real assurance that the city's procurement activities are always being conducted in a fair, open and transparent manner, and whether procurement activities are cost effective?

Audit committee chairman, Ward 11 Ald. Brian

said ments to the city's purchasing framework will not only help provide more oversight, but could save cash.
"I'm sure that in stream-

lining, we'll be able to save money. I'm sure we'll the procurement process faster. And it will make it more efficient,' said Pincott.

Though Pincott nor Mc-Taggart couldn't provide an indication of how much money could be saved - a framework that provided

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one per cent improvement could net the city \$13.5 million in savings.

The recommendations in the report were agreed to by administration, and should be implemented within six months.

metr@news.ca

Video Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean condemns the killing of an activist opposed to a Canadian mine

during a state visit to Mexico at metronews.

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The Alberta Information and Privacy Commissioner determined Alberta Health Services had "reasonable measures in place" after an investigation into a computer virus that exposed health information of up to 11,582 people in July of this year. METRO CALGARY

Give public say in towers: Ald.

Motion to be put forward on wireless infrastructure OKs

DARREN KRAUSE

With the influx of new wireless providers on the horizon comes the potential for more infrastructure needed to carry the signal.

fact, Hawkesworth said he's been told there could be as many as 300 applications for towers come forward in 2010.

Hawkesworth said these applications, between the provider and Industry Canada, don't require public consultation if the proposed towers are under 15 metres — and many have consequently come in at 14.9 metres, he says -- wiping out public input.

"You could have a tall tower that could be ugly and requires public consultation, or you could have a short, stubby tower that's ugly, but doesn't require public consultation," he said.

The city rubber-stamps the Industry Canada applica-

tion approval with a letter concurrence, , said but he Hawkesworth wants to hinge that letter upon a wireless provider's willingness to voluntarily solicit public input, regard-

less of tower height.
"I'm getting all the backlash on this, and it's time to do something about it," said Hawkesworth who will bring the notice of motion to council on Monday.

Chris Robbins of WIND Mobile, who has 40 salespeople and four locations ready to launch in Calgary, said its preferred approach is tower sharing, but will comply if necessary for new towers. "We'll follow whatever the rules are, as long as they apply to everybody," said Robbins, saying there would be a cost attached to

gathering public input.

A spokesperson for the Canadian Wireless Telecommunication Association said any city regulation would have to be in sync with Industry Canada guidelines.

Local heroes Flames raise funds



Calgary Flames players, Fredrik Sjöström, left, and Brian McGrattan both sign autographs for Joe Willis, 8, who waited in line for hours to meet his heroes at the North Hill Centre's gift wrapping centre. The Flames were on hand to help raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Charity spreads Christmas magic to those in need

Santa and six elves are preparing to visit hundreds of families in emergency shelters, residents, nursing homes and hospitals, says

president Peter Buur. "We bring gifts, hugs and songs to share the Christmas spirit with those in the city that are less fortunate,' Buur said, "It's a nice feeling to be able to spread some Christmas joy.

erosity, the charity is still in

es will deliver the gifts.

Prepare for Southeast LRT, says alderman

DARREN KRAUSE

TRANSIT Though potentially still years away, one alderman wants to make sure city administration has its ducks in a row when it comes time to launch the Southeast LRT.

Ward 12 Ald. Ric McIver will bring forth a notice of motion at Monday's council meeting to develop an implementation plan for the southeast leg, come time for when funds are able to lay the tracks.

"The bottom line is that the West LRT got on the books because when we had money come available for the next LRT line, there was a plan – at least for the most part, that was ready to go," he said.
"I want to make sure

the next time we have the resources to move ahead with an LRT line that the southeast is ready to go."

McIver hopes the plan goes from the 30,000-foot view, down to the 1,000-foot view especially in light of recent changes made to the southeast LRT route (through Quarry Park). While he admits some of the components are there, his notice of motion will direct administration to put together a draft plan for implementation to come back some time in 2010.

"If the two elements of success are preparation and execution, what we can do right now is the preparation.



calgaryletters@metronews.ca

The Magic of Christmas is gearing up to bring Christ-mas to those who otherwise may not get one.

Magic of Christmas charity

Buur says while he is impressed by Calgarians' genneed of donations. "We run 100 per cent by donations to ensure no Calgarian is left out," he added.

On Dec. 24 at 7:45 a.m., decorated "reindeer 10 decorated "reindeer sleigh" Calgary Transit bus-

KRISTA SYLVESTER/METRO CALGARY

Rick Halford says the evidence

remains the same and police



Calgary in brief

REPORT A report into the death of a woman with Down syndrome at an Edmonton group home says governments should do more safety inspections of such facilities. Marilyn Lane died in a fire that broke out in the unlicensed group home on April 12, 2007. Lane was trapped by heavy smoke and could not escape from a basement window. TIGERS Calgary police say they

will reissue trespassing tickets to two men mauled by a tiger after allegedly breaking into the Calgary Zoo. The Crown withdrew the tickets against Thomas Anthony Bryce-Hart and Trever James Wearmouth earlier this week, saving they weren't filled out properly. Sgt.

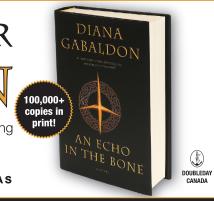
will reissue summonses for both men in the near future. MISSING Banff RCMP are seeking two teens who may have left the area on their own accord, but have been reported missing. Alexander Haley, 16, and Madison Smith, 14, disappeared the morning of Dec. 8 after they both left for school, but did not show up, RCMP said. Haley is described at sixfoot-1, 152 pounds with brown hair and eyes. Smith is five-footthree, 111 pounds, with short dark brown to black hair and blue eyes. Anyone with information is asked to call the Banff RCMP at 403-762-2228.

METRO CALGARY

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Wait times for long-term care beds on rise: NDP

The number of people waiting for access to long-term care beds in Alberta has more than tripled since 2006, and grew by more than 56 per cent from 2008 to 2009, according to an Alberta NDP release. The NDP also claim the provincial government will cut long term-care beds in the province. METRO NEWS SERVICES

New parking spots added at YYC

KRISTA SYLVESTER

There will be fewer parking woes at the Calgary International Airport as the YYC opened a new parkade adding 1,930

The on-site, seven-level covered parkade will bolster the current number of stalls to 7,480 and is the final phase of the Parking Made Easy initiative, according to the Airport Authority.

is far more convenient now, and there is a wide variety to choose from. We have a spot for everyone." Airport Authority VP Bob Schmitt said.

Schmitt admitted there have been problems in the past with some travellers having a hard time finding parking, but he says that won't happen anymore.

Travellers won't need to feel the stress of trying to find a spot anymore and we have spots for

people now and well into the future.

As a part of the initiative, weekly parking has been reduced from \$99 to \$49.95, "just in time for the cold season," Schmitt added.

Ald. Gord Lowe said it

was critical for the parking spots to be added to the third busiest airport in the country.

"It's very important for Calgarians, it's very important for the airport and it's very important for the city," he said.



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Hiah school holiday show to feature 38 languages

KRISTA SYLVESTER krista.sylvester@metronews.ca



EDUCATION It's going to be a Christmas to Remember at Father Lacombe High School - in 38 different languages.

Father Lacombe ESL teacher Adriana Beijko wrote and produced the unique school Christmas production featuring students presenting a Christmas story in their own words and representing the countries they are

"They can share the traditions, the language and the songs that they take

that

usually

there was

a stigma

attached

but we're

working

against

that and

the bar."

raising

Beijko,

to ESL.

from their country and "I think share it with the audience."

Beijko said. Beijko recently conducted a study and found students at the school represent 43 different countries. "We have

students from all over and all Adriana different languages and it's nice teacher to share

that with everyone else and teach them about the culture.

The parents of the students are excited about the Tuesday night performance and it will be a full house, she added.

Beijko is especially proud because the ESL drop-out rate typically was 75 per cent, but since 2006 at Father Lacombe it's improved to the point that 85 per cent are set to gradu-

ate.
"I think that usually there was a stigma attached to ESL, but we're working against that and raising the bar," she added.



Representatives from 14 Canadian universities will try to attract Chinese doctoral students to their schools during a recruitment mission in Beijing starting Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Top court to hear case

The legal tussle over a multimillion-dollar legal bill between the B.C. government and a man

that killed a total of 331

Prior to the start of the trial in 2003, the B.C. gov-ernment signed an

agreement with the millionaire businessman to pay the costs of his defence team up front. Malik was to repay the government cost of his 11-member team. He hasn't, despite government dating demands

back to December 2005. Malik is suing the Crown for malicious prosecution, and launched legal action in 2007 arguing that he shouldn't have to pay if his allegations prove true in court. He also claimed the deal he made with the province to repay his legal fees was made under duress.

The Crown launched its own court action alleging Malik and his family members conspired to defraud the Crown by hiding his assets and disguising his net worth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canada

on Air India legal bills

B.C. says acquitted man owes millions

acquitted in the Air India bombings is headed for Canada's highest court.

Supreme of Canada Court said Thursday it will hear an appeal by the province over Ripudaman documents it seized Singh Malik in connection to the assets and liabilities of Ripudaman Singh Malik.

În March 2005, a B.C. Supreme Court judge acquitted Malik and co-accused Ajaib Singh Bagri in the 1985 bombings of two

separate Air India flights

Former Canadian Olympic figure skater Barbara Ann Scott carries the Olympic torch into the House of Commons during a ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa Thursday.

Ottawa Torch comes to Commons



News in brief

BONUSES Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday he has no plans to tax excessive bonuses handed out to bank

executives, but warned Canadian bankers they must follow international quidelines on compensation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opposition votes to get Afghan documents

ERROR Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government has lost its iron grip on information about detainee treatment in Afghanistan after a showdown that pitted the power of the ruling party against the power of Parliament and the combined force of the opposition parties.
The Liberals narrowly

pushed through a motion in the Commons on Thursday that forces Harper's government to release waves of unedited documents so that Parliament can examine whether Afghan prisoners detained by Canadian forces were subject to torture when handed over to local authorities, and what the government knew about the issue.

The motion passed with a vote of 145 to 143.

It is not clear how that information will be released in days ahead, or whether the government will continue to resist the documents' release.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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No Greenpeace tees in Parliament

Attire could 'disrupt' proceedings: Official

Greenpeace T-shirts have been banned from Parliament after the organization staged an illegal demonstration on the Hill this week.

The ban is due to "recent events," a security guard told a reporter from The Canadian Press who entered the Parliament Buildings as a visitor Thursday wearing a Greenpeace T-

The reporter put on the shirt to confirm reports that security was searching visitors for Greenpeace lo-

The T-shirt was brought to the attention of nearby officers, who told the reporter she could not enter the buildings. They relent-

Environmental protest

 About 20 Greenpeace activists were arrested Monday after scaling the roof of the Par liament Buildings and unfurl-

ed after she agreed to turn the T-shirt inside-out.

A House of Commons security guard then issued a stern warning: "We won't tolerate anything. We will charge you.

The protest embarrassed RCMP and other security officials on Parliament Hill.

Heather Bradley, spokesperson for the Speaker's office, said it is routine for guests to be obliged to remove attire that may "disrupt" prothat may

ing a sign attacking Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff for their environmental positions.

ceedings

"When someone is invited in as a member of the public in either the chamber or a committee, they're invited in as an observer, that's it," she said. "They're not a participant, they're an observer.'

Bradley offered the example of several visitors who were recently asked to remove anti-abortion pins before entering the public

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal Torch run protest



Protesters hold a sign Thursday in Place Jacques Cartier in the Old Port of Montreal prior to Olympic torch celebrations.

News in brief

TAX LAWS Non-profit organizations are calling on the federal government to change income tax laws to make it easier for philanthropists to donate private company shares and real estate to char-

POLITICS As the holiday recess begins, election fever has fizzled, the Conservatives are stronger than ever, while the Liberals are wounded and regrouping. Canadians. it seemed, did not want another election and it appeared they were prepared to punish the Liberals if they sparked one.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Delay threatens Afghan prisoners hearing

INQUIRY A public hearing by a military watchdog into the handling of Afghan prisoners has been rescheduled for the spring, but whether the federal government actually lets it proceed is uncertain.

The resumption of the inquiry was debated Thursday amid the fallout from Gen. Walt Natynczyk's explosive revelation that a Canadian-captured tainee was indeed abused, contrary to the Tory government assurances that there was no evidence of torture prior to 2007.

Peter Tinsley, the outgoing chairman of the Military Police Complaints Commission, said it was necessary to set a date for the resumption of the inquiry, but the Conservative government has yet to appoint his successor something that could further delay or even kill the proceedings

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Senator's fraud trial hears from an aide in fear

The former aide at the centre of fraud allegations against Senator Raymond Lavigne was described Thursday as an intimidating ex-bouncer. Louise Martin, another one-time aide, told the senator's fraud trial she was afraid of Daniel Cote, who allegedly worked as Lavigne's personal handyman at taxpayers' expense. THE CANADIAN PRESS

5,000 join in a power play

Sale of NB utility opposed

Thousands of people in New Brunswick are speaking out about the sale of NB Power.

New Brunswick's Conservative opposition has presented the provincial

Anatomy of a sale

- Under the proposed deal, Hydro-Québec would get all the major assets of NB Power, including transmission lines and the Point Lepreau nuclear power station, for \$4.75 billion — equal to NB Power's debt.
- Residential rates would also be frozen for five years and industrial customers would see an immediate 3 per cent cut in rates, with the savings expected to equal about \$5 billion.
- Unions in New Brunswick are worried about the impact on jobs when coal-fired plants in Dalhousie, Courtenay Bay and Grand Lake are decommissioned.

government with petitions signed by more than 5,000 people who are opposed to the sale.

Tory Leader David Alward says some of the petitions say no to the sale.

Others, Alward said, call on the Liberal government to hold a referendum or wait for the next election before finalizing the deal.

The petitions have been tabled in the legislature and Alward says more are coming.

Energy Minister Jack Keir says he's not upset by the petitions because it is democracy at work.

He says there are still a lot of people who don't understand the benefits of the deal.

Under the plan, Hydro-Québec would buy the major assets of NB Power for almost \$4.8 billion and provide more than \$5 billion in rate cuts over five years.

Guatemala Canada's hands-on visitor



Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean accompanied by Guatemala's President Alvaro Colom, places a flower on a monument during a welcoming ceremony at the national palace in Guatemala City on Thursday. Jean is on a six-day official visit to Guatemala.

N.B.'s bilingual bid worth an Olympic gold

officially bilingual province will help make Canada's Olympic Games bilingual.

The government of New Brunswick has announced it will help translate all documents from the Vancouver 2010 Games from English to French.

The province will give \$60,000 to the Sport New Brunswick non-profit to help with translation.

Canada's official languages commissioner, Graham Fraser, has expressed concern about a possible lack of French at the Games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hospitals battle a killer

DEATH A lethal condition is killing more than 9,300 people each year.

It's sepsis, a serious body-wide response to infection that patients often acquire while being treated in hospital.

A report released Thursday by the Canadian Institute for Health Information provides a pan-Canadian snapshot of sepsis, one of the top causes of death in hospitals, said Indra Pulcins, a director.

"One in three patients with sepsis in Canada will end up dying from it," Pulcins said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sepsis snapshot

 Sepsis signs are fever or lower-than-usual temperature, rapid heart and breathing and an abnormally high or low number of white blood cells.

• Those with weakened immune systems are vulnerable















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12

A group of Israeli doctors have found the soothing sounds of Mozart may help premature babies grow faster. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

57 held in Philippines

Militiamen demand murder, banditry charges dropped

Officials negotiated for a second day with government-armed former militiamen who took 57 villagers hostage in the southern Philippines to press their demands that murder and banditry charges against them be dropped.

The abductions Thursday by 15 gunmen raised fresh questions over the government's long-standing policy of arming civilian volunteers to protect against insurgencies. Just the day before, 100 other militiamen in the south were accused of slaughtering civilians in the

country's worst political massacre. Hours after the kidnapping, a government negotiator persuaded the gunmen to free the 17 schoolchildren among more than 70 people they initially held.

They continued to hold

57 hostages, most of them women. Negotiations resumed early Friday outside three remote hilltop huts in the southern Philippine hinterland where the gunmen had holed up with their captives, said chief negotiator Josefina Bajade.

"So far, so good," she said, adding the gunmen "com-

mitted to me that nobody will be harmed."

The hostage-takers in San Martin hamlet in Agusan del Sur province are former militiamen who had been dismissed and turned to banditry and extortion, targeting mining and logging companies in the area, said police Chief Superintendent Jaime Milla.

For decades, the Philippine government has armed civilian volunteers — often poorly trained and ill-disciplined — as a backup security force in areas with communist or Muslim insurgencies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Humbled and hawkish, Obama accepts Nobel Peace Prize

NORWAY U.S. President Barack Obama accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on Thursday in Oslo with a striking defence of war, saying that evil must be vigorously opposed even as he made an impassioned case for building a "just and lasting peace."

Pronouncing himself humbled by such an honour so early in "my labours on the world stage," Obama nevertheless turned his Nobel moment into an unapologetic defence of armed intervention in times of self defence or moral necessity.



Canadian and Alaskan Inuit demonstrate against U.S. President Barack Obama receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, in front of the U.S. Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark, Thursday.

Busy man

• U.S. President Barack Obama's decision to break with tradition and not follow the lead of past Nobel Peace Prize winners bewildered some Norwegians. Others thought he was being impolite, as he skipped out on a host of activities, including Friday's Nobel Concert. Obama blamed his schedule

It was a jarring moment when Obama, in the midst of the ceremony, said of U.S. troops in Afghanistan: "Some will kill. Some will

be killed."
He lauded previous Nobel winner Martin Luther King

Jr., as a preacher of nonviolent action. But he added, "A nonviolent movement could not have halted Hitler's armies. Negotiations cannot convince al-Qaida's leaders to lay down their arms."

He drew laughter when he acknowledged "the considerable controversy that your generous decision has generated."

"My accomplishments are slight," Obama said, by comparison to such "giants of history." In addition to other Nobel winners, he said the unrecognized masses who fight for peace are "far more deserving."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief

CHINA Towering eight stories, the Golden Lamp Church was built to serve nearly 50,000 worshippers. But that was before hundreds of police and hired thugs descended on the mega-church, smashing doors and windows, seizing Bibles and sending dozens of

worshippers to hospitals with serious injuries, members and activists say. Today, the church's co-pastors are in jail. The gates to the church in the northern province of Shanxi are locked and a police armoured personnel vehicle sits outside. The closure of

what may be China's first mega-church is the most visible sign that the communist government is determined to rein in the rapid spread of Christianity, with a crackdown in recent months that church leaders call the harshest in years.

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14 world

Crackdown after South African citizenship given away

South Africa on Thursday suspended dozens of officials being investigated for giving citizenship to mainly Pakistani foreigners, nearly a year after Britain warned that corrupt officials were handing out false South African passports. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emails fuelling skeptics

Some Republicans to argue against greenhouse gas reductions



At a critical time, the uproar over stolen emails suggesting scientists suppressed contrary views about climate change has emboldened skeptics — including U.S. congressional Republicans looking to scuttle President Barack Obama's push for mandatory reductions in greenbouse gases

greenhouse gases.

The email brouhaha, dubbed "Climategate" by doubters, comes as U.S. delegates to the international climate conference in Copenhagen are trying to convince the world the United States is determined to move aggressively to rein in heat-trapping pollution.

To counter the dele-

'Deep' evidence

 More than 1,700 scientists in the U.K. have signed a statement to defend the "deep and extensive" evidence that climate change is real and is the result of human activity.

gates, a group of Republican lawmakers is going to Copenhagen to argue against mandatory greenhouse gas reductions.

The climate skeptics gained political momentum when former Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin said Obama should boycott the negotiations in Denmark and "not be a party to fraudulent scientific practices" — a clear reference to the purloined emails from computers belonging to scientists at a British climate research

centre

Obama is going anyway. Former vice-president Al Gore, the most recognized U.S. voice on climate change, quickly rebutted Palin and accused the climate deniers in an interview with CNN television of "taking things out of context and misrepresenting" what the emails actually said.

That has not stopped Republican members of Congress, two dozen of whom are writing a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon demanding that he investigate the emails.

Republican lawmakers say they will loudly and often raise questions about what they consider a corruption of climate science at the Denmark conference, where delegates from 192 nations are trying to forge a climate

greement.

It all began when hackers broke into a computer system belonging to a highly-respected climate research centre at Britain's University of East Anglia, stole several thousand emails spanning a decade between some of the worlds leading climate scientists, and three weeks ago put some of the spiciest ones on the Internet. One referred to using a "trick" that could be used to "hide the decline" of temperatures.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S. Senate backs bill to protect sources

WASHINGTON A bill to protect reporters' confidential sources in U.S. federal court cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday, ending months of stalemate.

The so-called media shield bill went to the full Senate, but it's not certain that it would become law this year. Even if the Senate acts, the legislation would have to be reconciled with a different version approved by the House earlier this year.

The bill does not give

journalists absolute authority to protect sources. Those rights can be overridden in national security cases.

The legislation has broad support from journalism organizations. Conservative Republicans and some in the intelligence community believe it can harm attempts to track down leakers of classified national security information.

Shortly before the committee approved the bill 14-5, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, tried to tighten the definition of a journalist

Sponsors of the legislation, however, said it was difficult to craft a definition with changes in journalism, including proliferation of Internet sites of all types and bloggers.

Instead, the bill has the broadest definition of a journalist — including bloggers, citizen journalists and freelancers — and relies on court tests to determine whether sources deserve protection.

The journalist is defined by the nature of activity engaged in, rather than by the organization that employs the reporter.

The bill is a compromise worked out by senators, the intelligence community and the Obama administration. The ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief

BRITAIN H1N1 flu is far less dangerous than originally feared, British officials said Thursday — about 100 times less lethal than the 1918 Spanish flu. To determine how deadly the virus is, the British health department tracked all reported swine flu patients hospitalized between July and November. In a paper

published online in the British journal BMJ, experts estimated that out of every 100,000 infected people in Britain, about 26 died. That is about 100 times less deadly than the devastating 1918 Spanish flu, which killed at least 50 million people worldwide. Additionally, H1N1 appears to be nearly 10 times less fatal than the flu

pandemics in 1957 and 1968, the British numbers showed. TURKEY A methane gas explosion ripped through a coal mine in western Turkey on Thursday, trapping about 15 miners, a local official said. Mayor Sadi Kurtulan of the town of Mustafakemalpasa said about 15 miners were trapped after the blast caused

a shaft to collapse at the mine in the village of Devecikonagi in western Bursa province. Kurtulan said the explosion occurred nearly 215 metres below the surface and rescue workers were trying to evacuate the miners. Around five workers were pulled out and hospitalized, he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Pope hails greater tolerance in Cuba

While welcoming Havana's new ambassador to the Vatican, Pope Benedict WOrld 15 said Thursday that there are growing signs of religious freedom in Cuba. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. men tried to join jihadist groups: Official

Five young American Muslims arrested in Pakistan met with representatives of a group linked to al-Qaida and asked for training, but were turned down because they didn't have connections with trusted militants, a Pakistani security official said Thursday.

Another senior officer said the five men wanted to fight jihad, or holy war, in northwestern Pakistan and to battle American troops in Afghanistan.

The case is another worrisome sign that Americans may be susceptible to terrorist recruitment from within the U.S. It comes af-

Online links

 The five Americans who have been arrested in Pakistan reportedly first tried to contact jihadist groups through Facebook and

ter charges against a Chicago man accused of plotting international terrorism.

U.S. officials in Pakistan have now visited the men in custody. Their disappearance from the area of Washington, D.C., late last month (one of them left a militaristic farewell video, saying Muslims must be defended)

by friends and family, and an investigation by worried counterterrorism officials.

Javed Islam, a regional police chief in Pakistan, said the men met with a banned organization. Iaish-e-Mohammed in Hyderabad, and with representatives of a related group, Jamat-ud-Dawa, in Lahore.

"They were asking to be recruited, trained and sent on jihad," Islam said.

But those groups turned the young men down because they did not have "references" trusted militants.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ousted president, coup leaders at stalemate

POWER PLAY Honduras's coup-installed government says ousted leader Manuel Zelaya is free to leave the country and fly to Mexico. but only if he goes as a private citizen seeking political asylum. Zelaya, however, refuses to concede that he is no longer president.

Thus the deposed leader remained holed up Thursday inside the Brazilian Embassy in Tegucigalpa, the capital. If he leaves the building, the coup leaders have said they will arrest him on charges of treason

and abuse of power.
Zelaya said he had spo-

ken with Mexican President Felipe Calderon and Dominican President Leonel Fernandez about meeting Honduras's president-elect, Porfirio "Pepe" Lobo, in a neutral site to "find a peaceful solution to the situation in the coun-THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Comment

Hockey's highlights and penalties



t's the good, the bad, and the ugly with hock-

ley this week.
Let's start with the ugly.
A minor hockey coach is charged with sexual abuse of a teenage girl. We all know coaches enjoy power

and access to kids. While I'm relieved the alleged abuse wasn't against a young child, abuse is abuse and there's a line. The law tells us where that line is. The police did their part.

And there's the good. Minor hockey gives my family great friends, and provides my boys with some fine role models. There's people like Bruce Ayrton. He's the minor hockey coach who decided to stage the city's first outdoor hockey tournament this week. Under the stars, games began Thurs-

day night at the Triwood Community Association. Dozens of volunteers

make that rink possible. Ayrton thought: Why not have a tournament outside? Because of limited ice time, tournaments usually have four teams. But by using the outdoor rink as well, eight teams could be included.

Ice time is expensive. It puts hockey out of reach for many. Ayrton wanted to limit the cost of the tournament and give the kids some fresh air and fun.

The City of Calgary isn't a

fan of financing outdoor ice sheets. Indeed, they are last on the city's priorities for recreation facilities. But some community volunteers get together, buy boards, get a few hoses and hardy volunteers, and get their outdoor rinks up and running.

Remember, it was legendary Doc Seaman who established an outdoor rink in Black Diamond, south of Calgary, to prove that rinks shouldn't cost a gazillion dollars. It's named for his grandson, Scott Seaman.

This year, Hockey Calgary gave Ayrton's tournament a licence.

Next, some more good. The national women's hockey team plays Dec. 15 at the Saddledome, and the Canadian junior men Dec 22. Ticketmaster set the prices exactly the same: \$15, \$20, \$25. So our elite women command the same price as the junior men. I'm not sure if that's good or bad, but please fill the arena for the women.

Finally, some good and bad. Good: Hockey Calgary

is joining with Calgary Immigrant Services to teach hockey to teenage immigrant kids.

Bad: There's not enough equipment donations for the kids. Please contact Hockey Calgary manager Kirk Reynloss at kirk@hockey.calgary.com

kirk@hockeycalgary.com.
After dealing with a
coach up on sex assault
charges, he could use some
good news.

Janice Paskey teaches at Mount Royal University and is a volunteer with Westwood Hockey.

Views

Not such a rosy picture for aboriginals



Christmas

Bernd

Poverty is a fact of life facing many Aboriginal Peoples in Canada.

The UN recently ranked Canada fourth on its quality of life ranking and paints a rosy picture. Officially called the Human Development Index, it measures certain criteria to get a snapshot of a country's quality of life.

Let's look at this from the perspective of the aborigi-

nal community in Canada. Statistics show the aboriginal infant mortality rate is 1½ times higher than the Canadian infant mortality rate. An aboriginal man will die 7.4 years earlier than a non-aboriginal Canadian. An aboriginal woman will die 5.2 years earlier than her non-aboriginal counterpart.

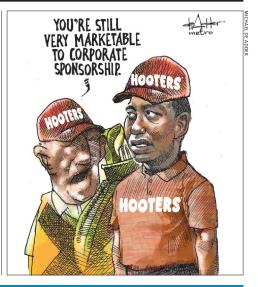
Unbelievably, 70 per cent of aboriginal students onreserve will never complete high school. Graduation rates for the on-reserve population range from 28.9 to 32.1 per cent annually. About 27 per cent of the aboriginal population between 15 and 44 years of age hold a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree, compared with 46 per cent of the Canadian population within the same age group.

On economic terms, unemployment rates for all aboriginal groups continue to be at least double the rate of the non-aboriginal population. About 80 per cent have incomes below \$30,000 per year.

Statistics on the health of Aboriginal Peoples is grim. The suicide rate is more than twice the Canadian rate and is now among the leading causes of death among aboriginal youth between the ages of 10 and 24, with the rate estimated to be five to six times higher than that of non-aboriginal youth. Diabetes is at least three times the national average.

It's wonderful that Canada is held in such high regard by others, but once you start to peel back the layers, an uglier picture emerges ... Aboriginal Peoples' poverty.

Bernd Christmas is a Mi'kmaq lawyer practising aboriginal and corporate law. www. berndchristmaslawgroup.com



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Toyota plans to hire 800 people

In another sign that conditions in the Canadian auto industry are improving, Toyota Canada plans to hire 800 more people at its plant in the southern Ontario town of Woodstock. THE CANADIAN PRESS

17

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EDITOR: FERMIN, DESOUZA @METRONEWS, CA

New York Ring my bell



AOL chairman and CEO Tim Armstrong, centre, smiles during opening bell ceremonies of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday. Shares of AOL declined in early trading Thursday as the Internet company made its official split from media giant Time Warner.

Stability threatened, BoC claims

Review finds conditions improved, but debt a risk

Mounting governmental and household debt are posing new risks to the stability of financial systems, the Bank of Canada said Thursday in its most recent analysis.

The central bank's semiannual "Financial System Review" finds that overall conditions have improved in the short term since it last reported in June.

But it adds that recordhigh debt by Canadian households pose an elevated medium-term risk if a second financial or economic shock were to materialize.

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney has warned in the past about Canadians getting in over their heads with large mortgage commitments that don't appear problematic given today's low interest rates.

The bank repeats the warning in its systems review, stressing that rates aren't going to remain at historic lows forever and

Review

• The Bank of Canada notes that its review of potential risks is not intended as a prediction of what is likely to occur, but an early warning system of potential

mortgage payments will rise.

This is both a potential

This is both a potential problem for households and banks, the report states.
"When borrowing funds,

"When borrowing funds, especially in the form of mortgages, households need to assess their ability to service these debt obligations over their entire maturity, taking into account likely changes in both income and interest rates," the report stresses.

And the bank says

And the bank says lenders should be careful about extending mortgage loans even if they are insured.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

BAILOUT Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner told a skeptical watchdog panel Thursday that the Obama

administration's decision to keep the government's unpopular bank bailout program going until October was a necessary "limited, qualified extension." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS EXPORTS Canada's

merchandise exports rose 3.4 per cent in October, led by a strong gain in exports to the United States which accounted for three-quarters of the increase. Statistics Canada reports a trade surplus with the world of \$428 million, as imports decreased 0.8 per cent in October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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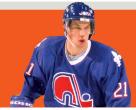
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Nicklaus on Woods: "None of my business" Jack Nicklaus, left, says the fallout over Tiger Woods' car crash and allegations of extramarital affairs is "none of my business." "Our public is pretty forgiving at times," Nicklaus said yesterday. "Time usually heals all wounds. I think the hardest thing is obviously his family. That's a private matter for him and his family." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ports



NHL keen on Quebec City?

Quebec's premier says he is now confident the NHL is keen on bringing a team back to Quebec City. Jean Charest said he discussed premier says Bettman seemed sincerely interested in bringing pro hockey back to the provincial capital. THE CANADIAN PRE:

Flames get tough test

NHL PREVIEW

Wild at Flames



The Calgary Flames and Minnesota Wild are both on a roll as the Northwest Division rivals head into their first meeting of the season Friday night.

The Flames (19-8-3) have six wins in their past eight games while the Wild (14-13-3) have won seven of their last nine contests, so something has to give when they clash at the Pengrowth Saddledome.

"They have been playing well and so have said Flames forward Nigel Dawes. "It should be a good

game. Obviously, they're a pretty good defensive hockey team. We're going to have to work hard to get to the net and get opportunities and second

chances." Both teams are coming off big wins Wednesday night, when the Flames beat the visiting Atlanta Thrashers 3-1 while the Wild beat the host ora-



do Avalanche 1-0. The results moved Calgary past Colorado into top spot in the Northwest Division, while Minnesota moved to within one point of

Edmonton the Oilers to escape the division first time we

Jarome Iginla, a combo that seems to be working. "He's a highly skilled player who can make plays and you know, he's been a scoring threat the last three games," Jokinen said. "We need him to play that way. He's one of those guys who wants to make plays and sees the ice well so it's easy to play with him."

game for both teams," said

Dawes. "Obviously things

have been going fairly well

for us in the last little

while and we have to con-

past eight games, Dawes

has been one of the hotter

Flames of late. He's been

skating on Calgary's top

line with Olli Jokinen and

With five goals in his

tinue to play like that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nigel Dawes

Jones misses playoff stage, ends trials with a whimper

CURLING Two teams have clinched their spots in the playoff round women's at the Canadian Olympic curling trials and three others will take to the ice Friday as part of a tiebreaker.

Jennifer Jones, however, won't be among them.

Iones, who came to Edmonton a favourite to earn the right to represent her country at the 2010 Olympics, missed the playoff stage by ending the trials Thursday just as she began them — with a whim-per. Jones was on the wrong end of a 10-9 deci-sion to 2006 Olympic bronze medallist Shannon Kleibrink and closed out the tournament with a 2-5 record.

Tied for sixth place in the standings in an eightteam field is not what she

Martin moves on

 Kevin Martin made a runback double in the ninth end to score three points against Glenn Howard and vaulted himself into the final of the Canadian Olympic curling trials. Howard was leading before Martin's late game heroics handed the Ontario skip a 8-6 loss.

expected heading into the

"You've worked three vears for this and we came out and things just didn't go our way," Jones said after her final loss. "Yeah I want to go to the Olympics, and so I think does every Canadian, but you can't sometimes make things happen."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

What's it take to be a Canadian flag-bearer?



nd so the speculation begins. Who will carry the Maple Leaf into the stadium when the Olympics open in Vancouver? This question preoccupies the musings of many Canadians every time the Games roll around because the subject of who will carry our flag prompts vastly differresponses, all of

which are laced with tremendous passion. The stakes are even higher because these are our home Olympics.

Some feel that the right and privilege of carrying the flag is an opportunity not to be denied - not even if the task interferes with preparation for imminent competition. Stellar athletes who declined for such reasons in 2006 at Torino were, at times, publicly ridiculed and found themselves having to defend their choices.

There are many characteristics necessary in a flag-bearer. Not only does the athlete have to be of substance on the field of play, he or she has to represent the goodness of Canada. In addition, this country aims to reflect its diversity in the person who bears the standard. Therefore, linguistic, racial and gender equality issues are considered.

Strangely, in a country in love with hockey, our greatest male players who will garner much of the nation's attention are deemed by many to be ineligible because they are professionals - sort of like invited guests at the Games.

It's too bad because the charitable Jarome Iginla, a veteran of three Olympics who scored twice in the gold-medal game in Salt Lake City, might be a great choice. So would Martin Brodeur, the most prolific goalie of all time who will take part in his fourth Olympics.

No, it seems Canada's flag-bearer must be an Olympian first and foremost. The job has to go to someone who has lived the Olympic life.

Without naming names, there are so many fine Canadians to assume this position. By now should all know who they are because when the time comes they will be representing all of us.

Scott Russell is the Host of CRC Sport Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Sports in brief

BASEBALL Victoria's Rich Harden and the Texas Rangers completed a one-year contract yesterday that guarantees the right-hander \$7.5 million US. The deal calls for a \$6.5-million salary next year and includes an \$11.5-million mutual option for 2011 with a \$1-million buy out

BASEBALL Looking to fill two big holes and add much-needed power to their lineup, the New York Mets have made contract offers to a pair of free agents: Canadian left-fielder Jason Bay and catcher Bengie

Molina. The team's bid for Bay, a native of Trail, B.C., was between \$60 million and \$65 million US over four years. Molina would cost much less.

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Movies&Entertainment



Movies Pg 21

Freeman and Damon shine in Eastwood's Invictus.



Jared Leto dishes on 30 Seconds to Mars' latest album.



Friday Night Lights among the top shows of the decade.



Invictus @@@@, The Princess and The Frog @@@@⅓, Me and Orson Welles @@@

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Cameron crunch time

Will Avatar's huge budget and hype sink it?

Movie feature

A colossal budget, visionary technology and a down-to-the-wire workload on a film whose fortunes are a real question mark.

James Cameron has been here before on little ditties called Terminator 2: Judgment Day and Titanic. In anyone's forgotten that worked out for him, Titanic stacked up 11 Academy Awards, best picture and director among them, and a record \$1.8 billion worldwide at the box

This time, the Ontario-born filmmaker's vision is riding on Avatar, a sciencefiction epic aiming to push the bounds of digital film-making and 3-D presentation into the heav-

ens, with a reported price tag well in excess of the \$200 million spent to make Titanic

Will audiences come along? Cameron thinks so.

"It's hard for me to imagine that short of some masmarketing debacle, that it's not going to work for people. I mean, we may not have a kind of slamdunk opening weekend that settles the whole case. I don't think the case is going



riding on his new sci-fi epic Avatar.

next week to be settled until week two or maybe week Cameron three," said only days after completing Avatar, just in time for its worldwide blowout next week.

"Let's face it. It wasn't settled on Titanic till week 10. Titanic was the No. 1 picture for 16 weeks. I don't expect that kind of performance out of Avatar.'

Cameron will not divulge what he does expect out of Avatar, wisecracking that if we announce the sequel, then we hit the number.

The director, who had a \$200 million smash on Terminator 2 and hits on Aliens and True Lies, has kept fans waiting a long time. Though he's been busy producing, making the underwater 3-D documentaries Ghosts of the Abyss

On the web (#

 For movie photos. trailers and screen times or to buy tickets - visit metronews.ca/movies.

and Aliens of the Deep and developing the technology for Avatar, this marks his first narrative film since Titanic 12 years ago.

Cameron's reputation and a mammoth marketing push by distributor 20th Century Fox virtually guarantee hit status for Avatar. Still, in this blockbuster age, there are hits and there are HITS. The question is whether Avatar can climb to the \$300 million or \$400 million level of such franchises as Star Wars, The Lord of the Rings and Spider-Man.

Some factors in its favour: · Science-fiction and fantasy have gone mainstream in a huge way since Cameron's last foray in

Now that cartoon hits have built fan appetite for digital 3-D films, Avatar is Hollywood's big test for the future of live-action movies in three dimensions. Avatar in 3-D will bring in about \$4 to \$5 a ticket more than the 2-D version.

 Cameron's a franchise unto himself even when he doesn't score a runaway hit (The Abyss).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Disney returns to its roots with The Princess and The Frog.

Frog timeless tale

The Princess and **The Frog**

Director: John Lasseter Stars: Anika Noni Rose Classification: G Rating: @@@@½

NED EHRBAR Metro World News



ironic part was that it took CGI king John Lasseter to champion a return to the animation studio's roots. In The Princess and the Frog, there's no winking irony, no out-of-place pop

and The Frog proves. The

culture references and no rapping grannies. What's there instead is a beautifully inventive take on a classic fairy tale full of music that pays homage to

the film's New Orleans set-

ting while still fitting in the classic Disney vein. The fact that Randy Newman wrote the songs but opted not to sing them himself probably helps a great deal.

The animation featured is a return to form for Disney, making the film feel timeless right out of the gate. The elephant in the room — that the film fea-Disney's ture's first African-American princess — becomes a non-issue so quickly it's ridiculous.

A lot of that probably has to do with the fact that our heroine, Tiana, spends much of the movie as a frog herself, but every aspect of the story is handled so artfully that anyone attempting to ascribe political meaning to anything in it would only make themselves seem foolish.

• For a trailer of The Princess and The Frog, photos, screen times — or to buy tickets metronews.ca





Spielberg up for sound award

Steven Spielberg has landed the Motion Picture Sound Editors' (MPSE) 2010 Filmmaker Award. The E.T. director will be honoured at next year's MPSE's Golden Reel awards ceremony held on Feb. 20. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK



Reel Time

●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POO

Stars on top of game

Invictus

Director: Clint Eastwood Stars: Matt Damon, Morgan Freeman

Classification: PG Rating: •••

NED EHRBAR Metro World News

The main joy of Invictus is watching Morgan Freeman finally, at long last, play Nelson Mandela, a role it was assumed would eventually end up on his resume.

But instead of a longplanned adaptation of Mandela's autobiography, director Clint Eastwood has brought to the screen the story of 1995 Rugby World Cup, held in South Africa, and Mandela's effort to use the event to unite an apartheid-scarred nation.

That Freeman excels as

Mandela is really no surprise, but it is fun to watch. The real surprise here is Matt Damon, as rugby captain Francois Pienaar, who turns in a startlingly effecting performance

ing performance.
Good as the leads are, the rugby itself unfortunately gets in the way. As the sport is more than likely a big unfamiliar to North American audiences, much effort is made to explain the basics of the game.

Some of these are seamless within the story, such as actual coaching sessions the team held in the townships as an outreach effort. Others, such as one security guard asking another straight-forward questions about scoring and gameplay, feel far too clumsy especially in a film that handles so many other complex story aspects so artfully.

The big final match against New Zealand, the



Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon star in Clint Eastwood's Invictus

film's climax, is played out almost in real time, point by point, leaving Mandela a spectator in his own story as Pienaar's men take the field and wordlessly fight for their nation's honour.

Aside from taking up way too much of the film's time, the game also suffers from too much slow motion, which is what ultimately

keeps the film from being a true success. Whether the audience knows the outcome of the famous game or not. the filmmakers take to buy

so long getting to the final

whistle that it's hard to care when they do.

• For a trailer of Invictus, photos, screen times — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies

MacKay towers in Welles

Me and Orson Welles

Director: Richard Linklater
Stars: Zac Efron, Christian
MacKay, Claire Danes
Classification: STC
Rating: ####

PHIL BROWN

REVIEW Sometimes one performance can save an entire film. Take Me And Orson

Welles, a fairly bland coming age story set against the backdrop of Orson Welles' infamous 1937 production of Julius Caesar.
The movie is feather-

The movie is featherweight and predictable, but bursts to life every time Christian McKay appears on screen as Orson Welles.

McKay's performance transcends impersonation to completely capture the complex personality of a young Welles at the peak of his powers and director Richard Linklater (Waking Life) is clever enough to shade in all of Welles' flaws just as carefully as his prestigious talents. It's easily the best representation of Welles ever captured on screen, but unfortunately the film that surrounds the towering performance doesn't quite compare.

The main problem with the movie is that it centres on Teen Beat coverboy Zac



Zac Efron and Claire Danes star in Me and Orson Welles.

Efron rather than Welles.

The High School: The Musical star plays an ambitious teen who stumbles into a small role in Caesar. Much of the film is about Efron learning hard life lessons from Welles, the cast, and a promiscuous production assistant played by Claire Danes.

Efron's limited range as an actor is stretched to the breaking point in a pretty undemanding role. The script does capture the youthful joy of being involved with the arts reasonably well, but without Orson Welles this would have been a made-for-TV movie at best.

Fortunately Richard Lin-

klater rushes through the plot to spend as much time as possible with McKay's Welles, vividly recreating his expressionistic take on Julius Caesar and filling every scene with subtle details about Welles' early life (such as his use of off-duty ambulances to race around New York).

It's unfortunate that the director didn't just make a film about this era of Welles' life with Christian McKay as the star, because it could have been an interesting bio-pic. As it stands, Me And Orson Welles is merely a pleasant movie featuring one astounding performance destined for awards recognition.





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Reel Time

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Nicholas Cage stars in Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans.

Bad behaviour

Director Herzog lets Cage rip in new film

CHRIS ALEXANDER for Metro Canada

In 1972 he took us down river into the heart of darkness in Aguirre The Wrath of God; in 1982's Fitzcaraldo, he hauled a massive steamboat over a mountain and in 2006's Rescue Dawn, he turned Christian Bale into an insect eating P.O.W.

Now, celebrated German

Now, celebrated German art house director Werner Herzog resurrects actor Nicolas Cage's long lost edge in his berserkly entertaining re-imagining of Abel Ferrara's notorious 1992 portrait of police corruption and drug fuelled madness, Bad Lieutenant. Herzog's Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans — opening next week — sees Hollywood heavy hitter Cage starring as a neurotic cop whose various addictions are slowly getting the better of him.

As he gets deeper entwined in a confounding murder investigation, he

"Nicolas's performance is often like jazz"

Director Werner Herzog

rides off the rails, veering into chemically tweaked eccentricity with near operatic aplomb.

"Nicolas's performance is often like jazz," says the 67-year-old Herzog, whose celebrated documentaries, like 2005's Grizzly Man, are

Grizzly Man, are as revered as his features.

If any film-maker alive understands how to essay bad behaviour on screen, it's Werner Herzog. Fans of Herzog's work are aware of his iconic and volatile working relationship with the late method actor Klaus Kinski, one of the most bizarre and fascinating of mits.

director/muse pairings in film history. It was that legacy that first attracted Cage to the role.

"Werner has a high tolerance for intensity," Cage says.

says.

"He gave me the freedom to experiment with my performance but also find the dark humour in the outrageousness of the character's behaviour."

Part of Bad Lieutenant's power also lies in the thick, sweaty atmosphere

Herzog wrings out of the battered New Orleans locales

Lieutenant

opens next

Friday

solog:

I but surprisingly, it was Cage
who suggested they move
the action essayed in
William Finkelstein's screenplay to the
Uousiana city which, to
further the influence on
Cage's persona, is also the

birthplace of jazz itself.
"I'm pretty connected to
New Orleans," Cage admits

Quebec's Dolan in Globe race

A breakout film by rising Quebec director Xavier Dolan is among the international contenders seeking a Golden Globe nomination for best foreign language film.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which runs the awards bash, says I Killed My Mother is one of a record 69 foreign language films that have qualified for consideration.

Dolan's searing portrayal

of a constantly bickering single mother and teenage son, known as J'ai tue ma mere in Quebec, was a smash on the festival circuit, winning raves at Cannes earlier this year.

It's Canada's official entry for consideration for the best foreign film Oscar. The Golden Globe con-

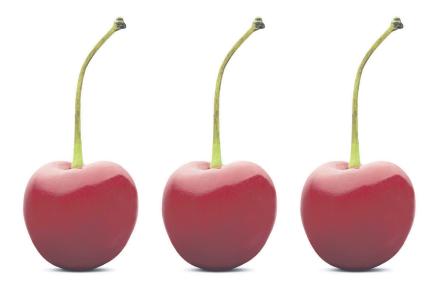
tenders will be whittled down to five nominees to be announced Dec. 15.

Other acclaimed foreignlanguage films vying for a nomination include Spanish director Pedro Almodovar's Broken Embraces, French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet's visual feast Micmacs, and German director Michael Haneke's celebrated film, The White Ribbon.

The Golden Globe Awards, hosted by Ricky Gervais, will be broadcast live Jan. 17 on NBC.

I Killed My Mother will be released to theatres in Canada on Feb. 5.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Not a great decade for some

Though they spent the 1990s on top of the celebrity world, both Mel Gibson and Tom Cruise fell from grace with bad, or just plain weird, behaviour this decade. MERO NEWS SERVICES

Reel Times

Through 10 years of escapism

Decade saw lot of fantasy and comic books make the silver screen

Hollywood picked the right decade to go over the rainbow.

In an era that brought harsh reality home with the war on terror and an economy gone bust, Hollywood became more of a dream factory than ever, embracing fantastic escapism at a time when audiences needed it most.

Though key fantasy franchises such The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter were in the works in the late 1990s, the films began arriving just months after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The respite they offered lasted just a few hours but who wouldn't want to take a detour to Middle-earth or Hogwarts and forget about the messy state of our own world for that brief time?

Fantasy, science-fiction and superhero sagas have been around since the early years of film, with Batman, Superman and Flash Gordon serials, and such classics as The Wizard of Oz.

But escapism during the Depression and Second World War mostly came in the form of breezy comedies or glossy musical romances.

The past decade solidified the fan boy as Hollywood's key audience, with the final instalments of George Lucas' Star Wars chronicle joining comic-book heroes (Batman, Spider-Man, the X-Men), toy stories (Transformers), and revived franchises (Indiana Jones, Star Trek) to produce a succession of colossal opening



High fantasy reigned at the box office this decade with hits such as The Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter and Spider-Man.

weekends.

Teenage girls got their own mega-franchise as the supernatural romance Twilight and its sequel, New Moon, made pretty boys out of traditionally monstrous vampires and werewolves.

Computer animation, pioneered in the 1980s and 1990s, reached new heights with such cartoon smashes as DreamWorks' Shrek flicks and Pixar Animation's stream of critical and commercial favourites, among them Finding Nemo, Up, WALL-E and Ratatouille.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Decade of diversity

 Diversity finally came to the Oscars this decade, practically a whites-only affair the previous 70-plus years. In the last decade, six black actors — including Denzel Washington for The Hurricane, Halle Berry for Monster's Ball and Jamie Foxx for Ray — received Oscars, matching the number who had won from 1927 to 1999.

 Hispanics also made progress with acting Oscars for Penelope Cruz for Vicky Cristina Barcelona, Javier Bar-



The late Heath Ledger in Brokeback Mountain.

dem for No Country for Old Men and Benicio Del Toro for

Ang Lee pushed the awards

envelope for Asians, winning the best-director prize for the gay-cowboy romance Brokeback Mountain and scoring a best-picture nomination on his martial-arts epic Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.

 While Brokeback Mountain lost best picture to the ensemble drama Crash in one of the biggest upsets in Oscar history. Gay drama did score a victory, however, with last year's Milk, earning Sean Penn his second best-actor honour.



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Amelia (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-7:05-9:40 Astro Boy (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-7:05-9:40 Astro Boy (PG) Fri-Thu 3:40 Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:45 Couples Retreat (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-

4:05-7:20-9:45 **District 9** (14A) Fri-Thu 6:55-9:50 **Inglourious Basterds** (18A) Fri-

The Invention of Lying (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-9:40 Julie & Julia (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:45-6:50-

9:30 **Paranormal Activity** (14A) Fri-Thu

10 **The Stepfather** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:55-7-9:25 **Surrogates** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:30-

7:25-9:35 Where the Wild Things Are

(PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:15 **Zombieland** (18A) Fri-Thu 1:35-3:50-7:10-9:55

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2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 2-6:30-10 **Armored** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-7:30-

10:30 **The Blind Side** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:20 **Brothers** (STC) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:10-

Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:50-5:10-7:35-10:05 Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) Fri-Tue 12:20-2:40-5-7:25-9:40 Wed 12:20-3:10-5:15-7:25-9:40 Thu 12:20-2:40-5-7:25-9:40 Invictus (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-

3:50-6:50-9:50 **Old Dogs** (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-2:50-5:05-

7:20-9:45 **Planet 51** (G) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-

7:40-10:10
The Princess and the Frog (G)
No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-2:40-5-7:25-9:40
The Royal Ballet: The
Nutcracker (STC) Sat 1
The Twilight Saga: New Moon
(PG) Fri 12:30-13-320-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:25

(PG) Fri 12:30-1-3:30-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:25 Sat 12:30-3:30-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:25 Sun-Thu 12:30-1-3:30-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:25

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2012 (PG) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 12:10-4-8 Mon-

Thu 8 **An Education** (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:15-6:50-9:20 Mon 9:20 Tue-Thu 6:50-9:20

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) Fri 7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-4-7:10-9:30 Mon-Wed 7:10-9:30 Thu 9:30
Inside Hana's Suitcase (STC) Fri

Precious: Based on the Novel
"Push" by Sapphire (14A) Fri 79:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-7-9:40 Mon-Thu

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri 6:40-9:50 Sat-Sun 12-3-6:40-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:50

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7:10-10:05

Brothers (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:20-7:05-10:05

Dave Matthews Band 3D (STC)

No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:45-7:20-10

ing Fri-Thu 1-3:45-7:20-10

Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D
(PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital

Everybody's Fine (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:30 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-9:30 SR Dolby Digital, Sta-dium Seating Mon-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) SR Dolby 3:10-6:45

Invictus (STC) Stadium Seating, SR Dol-by Digital, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:35-3:40-

6:55-i0
Law Abiding Citizen (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 9:35
New Moon (STC) SR Dolby Digital,
Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:25-3:25-79:50
Ninja Assassin (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 2-4:40-7:45-

Old Dogs (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digi-Planet 51 (c) No Passes, No booty Digital Fri-Thu 12:0-4:057:059:940

Planet 51 (c) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:05-2:55-6:30-9

The Princess and the Frog (c)

No Passes, Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-12:55-3:05-3:30-7-7:25-03:20-7-

9:25-9:50

The Road (14A) Stadium Seating, SR
Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:15-9:55

WWE: Tables, Ladders &
Chairs 2009 (STC) No Passes, Stadium
Seating Sun.

MACLEOD TRAIL 100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

2012 (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12-4:30-8 **Armored** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:35-7:45-10:15 Avatar 3D (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Sta-

dium Seating, No Passes Thu 11:59

The Blind Side (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7-10

Brothers (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:10

Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D

(PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating

Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-6:50-9:25 Invictus (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-3:15-

um beating, No Passes Fri-Inu 12:10-3:15-640-9:50
Old Dogs (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Inu 1:45-4:10-7:20-9:40
Planet 51 (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Inu 1:20-3:630 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12:20-3
The Princess and the Frog (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12:20-3
The Princess and the Frog (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Inu 1:47-10-9:35

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seat Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:45-9:15-9:45

GLORE CINEMA 617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

IMAX 3D Ex-perience (STC) No Passes Thu 12

Invictus (STC) Fri 6:45-9:15 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:15-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:15 Me and Orson Welles (STC) Fri 7-9:10 Sat-Sun 1-3:10-7-9:10 Mon-Thu 7-

Royal Opera: Messiah (STC) Sat

MOVIEDOME

1039 999 36 St. N.E., 403-248-2000 Astro Boy (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:05 The Box (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:50-

9:35 Cloudy With a Chance of

Meatballs (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-4-6:40 Couples Retreat (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-

3:40-6:45-9:40 The Fourth Kind (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-

3:457-9:55 Paa (PG) Fri-Thu 9 Rocket Singh: Salesman of the Year (PG) Fri-Thu 2-6:30-8:30 The Stepfather (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-

Surrogates (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-

10:05
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Fri-Thu 1:05-

Zombieland (18A) Fri-Thu 7:10-10

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK 6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

2012 (PG) Fri-Tue 1-4:30-8 Wed 1-4:30 Thu 1-4:30-8 Fri-Sat 11:30-3-6:45-10:15 Sun 11:30-3-10:15 Mon-Thu 11:30-3-6:45-10:15

Armored (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15 2:40-5:10-7:35-10:25 **Avatar 3D** (STC) No Passes Thu 12:01

4:50-9:35 **Invictus** (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-

3:407:05-10:15 Minja Assassin (18A) Fri 1:15-4:15-7:25-10:20 Sat 4:15-7:25-10:20 Sun-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:25-10:20 Old Dogs (0) Fri-Tue 11:45-2:10-4:40-7:05-9:40 Wed 11:45-7:05-9:40 Thu 11:45-2:10-4:40-7:05-9:40 Planet 51 (0) Fri-Thu 11:55-2:15-4:45-

The Princess and the Frog (c) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:59-2:15-4:45-7:20-10

The Road (14A) Fri-Tue 1:20-4:10-7:15-10:10 Wed 1:20-4:10-10:10 Thu 1:20-4:10-7:15-10:10

The Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker (STC) Sat 1 The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri 12:30-3:30-7-10:05 Sat 12:25-3:30-7-10:05 Sun-Thu 12:30-3:30-7-10:05 Fri-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 1:30-4:30-

WWE TLC: Tables, Lad-ders & Chairs - 2009 (STC) Sun 6

PLAZA THEATRE



Disney's new feature-length film The Princess and the Frog open across the country today. It's the first Disney film to feature an African-American princess and has already received a huge amount of pre-screening buzz.

In Transition: From Oil Dependency to Local Resilience (STC) Sun 1 Summer School (STC) Sun 4:30

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM 2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

2012 (PG) Fri-Thu 2-6:35-10:20 **Armored** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:25-7:30-10 **The Blind Side** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:20-10:30 The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (18A) Fri-Thu

12:30-3:30-7:25-10:30 **Brothers** (STC) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:35-6:50-9:40 **Disney's A Christmas Car- ol 3D** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:45-

ol 3D (PG) Iri-Ihu 12:052:45-5:057-351-0:10 Everybody's Fine (PG) Fri-Ihu 12:353:10-6:45-930 Invictus (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:55-3:20-7-10:25 Ninja Assassin (188) Fri-Sat 12:25-3:15-6:40-9:35 bun 12:25-3:15-6:40-9:35 Old Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:35-5:15-75:01-02:5

Planet 51 (G) Fri-Thu 11:50-2:30-5-

No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:15 The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Tue 12:15-3:45-6:55-10:05 Wed 12:15-3:45-10:05 Thu 12:15-3:45-6:55-WWE TLC: Tables, Ladders & Chairs - 2009 (STC) Sun 6

THE UPTOWN STAGE & **SCREEN** 612 8th Ave. S.W., 403-265-0120

Antichrist (R) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:45-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15 The Road (14A) Fri 4:45-7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:15-4:45-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:45-

7:10-9:30 **A Serious Man** (14A) Fri 4:50 Sat-Sun 12:15-4:50 Mon-Thu 4:50 **WESTHILLS 10**

165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

2012 (PG) Fri 7:50 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:40-7:50 Mon-Thu 5:05-8:25 **The Blind Side** (PG) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40

Brothers (STC) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:10-7:30-

Brothers (STC) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:10-7:30-10:05 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:35

Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 13:0-4-645-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:45

Invictus (STC) No Passes Mon-Thu 6-8:50

Ninja Assassin (18A) Fri 12:30-3:45-7:40-10:20 St 3:45-7:10-0:20 Sun 12:30-3:45-7:10-0:20 Sun 12:30-3:30 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:35

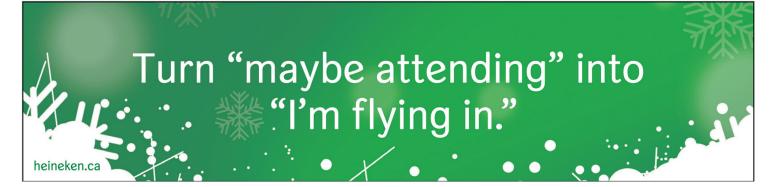
Precious: Bassed on the Novel Push" by Sapphire (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:30-8

The Princess and the Frog (G No Passes Mon-Thu 5:30-7:50

The Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker (STC) Sat 1

The Twilight Saga: New Mon

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:05



VAT (51) CERVEZA DE BARRIL DRAUGHT

www.EnjoyHei

The Blind Side (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4-

Brothers (STC) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:20-

Disney's A Christmas Carol 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:30-10 Pisney's A S.... (PG) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:30-10 Disney's A Christmas Carol: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Tive 11:30-2-4:30-7-9:30 - 'nco' Fri-Thu

12:50-3:45-6:50-9:50 **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri-Wed 12:05-2:20-4:50-7:10-9:35 Thu 12:05-2:20-

Tue 11:30-2-4:30-7-9:30 **Everybody's Fine** (PG) Fri-Thu

nResponsibly.com

Kensington Rd. N.W., 403-283-3636

(500) Days of Summer (PG) Fri 5:20 Sat 12:30-9:10 Sun 7:10 Mon 9:10

Tue 7:10 Wed 9:10 Thu 7:10 **The Age of Stupid** (STC) Fri 9:15 Sat 5:15 Sun 2:45 Mon 7:15 Tue 5:15 Wed

7:15 Thu 5:15 Buffy the Vampire Slayer Sing-a-Long (STC) Fri 3 Sat 11:30 Good Hair (PG) Fri-Sat 7:15 Sun 9 Mon 5:25 Tue 9 Wed 5:25 Thu 9 Home (STC) Sat 2:30







28 movies&entertainment



1. I Dreamed a Dream, Susan Boyle; 2. My Christmas, Andrea Bocelli; 3. Fearless (Platinum Edition), Taylor Swift; 4. Untitled, R. Kelly; 5. The Fame, Lady Gaga. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

CHARTS The following is HMV Canada's top 10 CDs based on national sales for the week ending Dec. 12.

POP

- 1. I Dreamed a Dream, Susan
- 2. My Christmas, Andrea Bocelli 3. Crazy Love, Michael Bublé
- 4. The Fame Monster, Ladv Gaga
- 5. My World, Justin Bieber
- 6. Glee: Season One Volume 2 7. Vox Pop. Maxime Landry
- 8. Stereo Box Set, The Beatles 9. This Is It Soundtrack, Michael
- Jackson 10. Fearless. Taylor Swift

COUNTRY

- 1. Fearless (Platinum Edition), Taylor Swift, below
- 2. Christmas, Johnny Reid
- 3. Play On, Carrie Underwood 4. Lady Antebellum, Lady Antebellum
- 5. Dance With Me. Johnny Reid 6. Taylor Swift, Taylor Swift
- 7. The List, Roseanne Cash
- 8. The Foundation, Zac Brown
- 9. Defying Gravity, Keith Urban 10. Kicking Stones, Johnny THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





ROGERS

Jared Leto goes to war

Actor and musician battles label, releases new album with 30 Second to Mars

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI for Metro Canada

Jared Leto might be a famous actor and platinum-selling musician, but even he has major record label headaches to deal with. In August last year, EMI sued Leto's band, 30 Seconds to Mars, for breach of contract.

Yet, the band re-signed with EMI before releasing their latest disc, This is War. "We want to be treated fairly," Leto tells Metro over the phone from Los Angeles. "We did get to a place where EMI addressed the concerns we were fighting for."

Still, it may seem a bit odd that the group would sign to any big label after all the trouble the majors gave the group. The band does have a massive following, so why not go the Radiohead route? It was something they consid-

"We looked at what other bands did," he says. "But Radiohead is now being distributed through a major. I started looking at the options and the reality is we're in a transition time right now. Being DIY still



This is War is the latest album from 30 Seconds to Mars, which features actor Jared Leto, left.

leaves the band having to do what it really doesn't want to, which is running a record company.'

Leaving all the grunt work to EMI allowed the group to try something completely different on their new record. Dubbed The Summit, the group went to several places around the world — including Toronto and Iran — to record fans playing instruments and singing to their new songs; some of these recordings ended up on the release.

"People did everything from percussion to singing to chanting and stomping," Leto explains. "We wanted to turn the audience away from the band and toward our fans around the world."

Working this into their songs wasn't easy. Leto had

to plan for these recordings, even though he didn't know how they would turn out, while he was writing the album. "I had to leave space for the Summit in a way you'd map out strings for a record."

The result is a louder, more epic 30 Seconds to Mars. Partly because of the Summit and also thanks to Leto's love of big stadium "If we're going to make a CD ... we might as well have fun and celebrate the release."

Billboard's top albums

Jared Leto

sounds, This is War is a cross between distorted. grungy rock and arenaready U2. It's brash and energetic, while Leto's wails pierce through the blistering drums and Edge-like guitar.

There's no doubt the band's fans will enjoy the effort, but just in case they need extra incentive to buy their disc, the group solicited its followers to submit photos for the CDs cover art. The group took the best and printed 2,000 cov-

ers.
"We did it to drive the record company crazy," says Leto, laughing. "We all know that most of us, me included, don't buy these very often anymore. If we're going to make a CD and go through the trouble of printing out a piece of plastic and putting songs on it, we might as well have fun and celebrate the release.

Best music of the year

his is the time of year — and the time of decade (more on that next week) - to make lists. I like lists. They make life so much more orderly. Here's my top ten albums of 2009 in order of release date.

To Lose My Life, White Lies (Released Jan. 12): How can a bunch of guys barely into their twenties already sound so world-



weary? Smooth, accomplished and very mature. I knew this was going to be on my best-of list the first time I heard it.

Ruins of Berlin, Dex Romweber Duo (Feb. 10): Some of the scariest psychobilly I've ever heard. Check out Dex's sister wailing on The Wind Did Move.

Primary Colours, The Horrors (May 5): Primary colours? The only colour that matters here is black — and that'll have to do until something darker comes along. If you're hoping for a shoegazer revival, it might have started here.

Vickatimest, Bear, (May 26): The hipster bloggers got this one right. Hugely ambitious and challenging yet understand-able and accessible. Can't wait for the next album.

Lungs, Florence + The Machine (July 7): Florence Welch looks like she stepped out of a Renaissance painting (and with good reason — she comes from a long line of art historians). Brilliant, bewitching, beguiling and wonderfully quirky. Kate Bush/Tori Amos fans take note.

Horehound.



Grizzly Bear's Vickatimest is one of Alan's top albums of the year.

Weather (July 14): I can just hear the voicemail from Jack White's wife: "Honey? Can you take a break and maybe come home so you can learn the names of your children?"

Backspacer, Pearl Jam (Sept. 22): Eddie and the guys get back to basics with a short, concise and optimistic album that rocks better than anything

they've released in years. Black Gives Way to Blue, Alice in Chains (Sept. 29): Against the odds, they pull it off with a new singer. Dark, muscular and complex, it's a reminder of AIC's original potential. There may yet be a second act for these guys.

Landing, Githead (Nov. 10): Surely the greatest album of 2009 that no one's heard. Featuring Colin Newman of Wire, the album harkens back to the post-punk art-rock of the late 70s.

Them Crooked Vultures, Them Crooked Vultures (Nov. 17): A supergroup that actually lives up to its promise. Imagine that.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com







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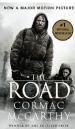
















Chapters

Indigo

COLES

Michael Jackson's brothers are planning a world tour as the Jackson 4. The remaining members of the group — $Marlon, Tito, Jackie \ and \ Jermaine-announced \ their \ plans \ Wednesday \ for \ a \ reunion \ next \ year. \ \textit{\textit{FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK}}$

Entertainment

Seal's selects for compilation show his range

NED EHRBAR for Metro World News

Seal is doing his best to battle jet-lag. He's just arrived in California from Australia, winding down a packed press tour to promote his new compilation, Hits, before joining wife Heidi Klum and their four children for the holidays. But he's not complaining.

"I'm not tired," he insts. "Tired is for the weak. I'll just stand for a bit, or else it will all go downhill quite fast."

A retrospective is an odd choice for the British singer, as he's not a big fan of looking back.

"I don't look back at my career and take a trip down memory lane," he

says.
"The funny thing is I never listen to any of my own music at home. Heidi has a habit of playing them. When I finished System and the Soul album, she just played them to

"I don't look back at my career and take a trip down memory lane."

death. And what I would always do is I'd leave the room.

The one hit in particular gives him the most pause is Kiss From a Rose, the single that catapulted him to fame.

"I can't stand singing it or the most part," he admits.

"It was the one I was most embarrassed by when I wrote it. I just thought it meandered all over the place.

"But then I've come to appreciate it - I haven't really written anything quite like it. And therefore I think it's the one I'm most proud of."

While he's not a fan of looking back on his career withstanding — Seal is very candid about how his life with Klum has turned out.

"Do we have issues? Of course we have issues. But in the grand scheme of things we don't, not compared to some of the is-

see other families have and other couples have. We don't have a leg to stand on when it comes to complaining," he says. "I've paid my dues. Both

Heidi and myself worked our asses off to get here. No one gave it to us.

And Seal isn't shy about speculating as to what's made him so successful or sharing his opinions on his fellow countrymen.

"My purpose for doing this was to emphasize the dynamic aspect of my career," he says of the compilation, which covers everything in his



Seal's smooth soaring vocals on his hit ballad Kiss from a Rose catapulted him to stardom in 1994

diverse career, from Crazy to last year's exploration into soul classics.

'Take a band like Coldplay. They've just made same record four times," he said.

'It's same record, with a little bit of piano intro, then he comes in with a

sort of ardent, sailing vocal that you're not quite sure what it means.

"It's a formula works. And they've just repeated it four times. And I've never really been remotely interested in doing

METRO WORLD NEWS

Second City marks half a century

As many of its illustrious alumni as it can manage will descend on Chicago this weekend to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Second City — the troupe that spawned a classic sketch comedy TV series and launched the careers of countless comedians, from Gilda Radner and Bill Murray to Tina Fey and Steve Carell.

Two of its most famous member, Catharine O'Hara and Eugene Levy, are par-



STORES: The THE SECOND CITY Unscripted has Second City interviews with its stars and creators.

ticularly looking forward to the reunion – and to sharing the stage

"I'm much more comfortable with him now than I ever was in the old days," O'Hara admits, as she and Levy have gone on to be mainstays in Christopher Guest's improvisation-inspired films, including Waiting for Guffman, Best in Show and A Mighty Wind, in which they played star-crossed folk singers Mitch Cohen and Mickey Crabbe.

The reunion special also doubles as a benefit for Second City's alumni fund. "They set it up for alumni of Second City who are go

ing through any sort of troubles in their lives and need some financial help,' O'Hara explains.

The prospect of reviving favourite characters from the past has its downside, Levy admits.

"We're going to try and bring some of the wigs out of the mothballs," Levy says.

"It's kind of sad in a way,



Catharine O'Hara and Eugene Levy with the old school City crew

but fun in another — sad the same thing." to see us now, trying to do

METRO WORLD NEWS



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32 movies&entertainment

Following in the footsteps of Kristin Chenoweth and Jonathan Groff, Tony winner Idina Menzel is in advanced talks to join the cast of Glee. If the deal goes through, she'll be playing the choir director for New Directions' rivals, Vocal Adrenaline. Ew.com

Television

The Canadian Press picks top 10 TV shows from the past decade

DEVELOPMENT (2003-2006) It may be the most successful unsuccessful TV show of the decade: an irreverent, wacky sitcom that thrilled its faithful audience while bewildering countless others with its non-sequitur sense of humour.

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (1997-2003) Before Twilight took a stab at dissecting teen angst with romantic fantasy. this nuanced dramedy sunk its teeth in-

581 566 102 MTV Cribs

to adolescent pain with a disarming realism that belied its lighthearted, supernatural premise.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS (STARTED 2006) Perhaps nowhere did America seem more real in the past decade than in Dillon, Texas, where residents confronted the Iraq war, racism and unemployment as they cheered on their beloved Panthers. The documentary style of FNL of-

fered up a startling authen-

ticity, transporting viewers

8:00

to pungent locker rooms, rundown houses and the local Applebee's.

GILMORE GIRLS (2000-2007) No, the breakneck babble shared between every character is not realistic. Neither is Stars Hollow where the show takes place. But Lorelai Gilmore (Lauren Graham) and her daughter, Rory (Alexis Bledel), are such meticu-lously drawn characters that they feel like old friends.

LOST (STARTED IN 2004) With compelling characters, spellbinding storylines and mythical symbolism about a bunch of plane-crash survivors on a mysterious tropical island, Lost has brilliantly bridged the gap between the genres of scifi and big-network drama.

THE OFFICE (U.K.) (2001-2003) Not only hilarious and unnervingly clever. British breakout reinvented the sitcom on both sides of the pond with its

11:00

awkward humour and sly, at product placement. deadpan delivery.

THE SOPRANOS (1999-2007) When creator David Chase introduced mob boss Tony Soprano (James Gandolfini) to the world, he instantly lifted the traditional popculture Mafioso image from one-dimensional cari-

cature to a nuanced enigma

30 ROCK (STARTED IN 2006) With the impossibly clever one-liners and selfreferential storylines on 30 Rock, Tina Fev's Liz Lemon has became the decade's Mary Tyler Moore, wowing us with her clever jabs at NBC and pithy pokes

VERONICA MARS (2004-2007) The short-lived series was something of a high-school noir, from its masterfully plotted first-season murder whodunit to the way that even its sunny California environs were always shaded in foreboding tones.

THE WIRE (2002-2008) Critics have suggested it's not only the best show of the decade, but TV's best show of all time. The crime drama examined the crooks and cops in crime-plagued Baltimore, giving equal face time to both sides.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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	able	522 516 45 HIST	Go Deep "Speed Sa	ailing"	Battles BC		A Dream for Kabul (N)		Liberator		Underworld
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9:00

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2/12/09	2	4 OMNI	Omni News: Mandarin Edition	Once Upon a Time in Toronto		Once Upon a Time in Toronto		Trendy Zone	Chinese Rest.	Most Amazing
5	7	- 371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6 Time Life	Entertainment Toni	ight	The Polar Expres	s * * * (2004, Fan	tasy), Nona Gaye		Castle
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• .≘		- 372 12 KREM	News Scrubs	Grey's Anatomy		Rudolph, Red-No	sed Reindeer	The Flight Before	Christmas	48 Hours
9	פ		The Lawrence Welk Show	May-December Time Goes By		(9:05) Mildred Pie	erce *** (1945, [Drama) Joan Crawford, Jack Carson		
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2	2	- 373 22 KAYU	House	Two/Half Men Tv	wo/Half Men	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most	Wanted	News
	,	502 390 15 CBC	National Mansbridge	The Third Sex		National	News: At Issue	National	Mansbridge	The Third Sex
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12			(7:01) Jonas Overruled!				Han. Montana		Fantasy) Susan Li	
'		603 561 25 FOOD	Chopped	Top Chef: Las Vega	as	The F Word		Dear Food Network		Chopped
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	=	- 371 5 KXLY	News	Explorer TV	Amer. Funniest I	Home Videos	Extreme Makeov	er: Home Edition	"Ward Family" (N		Oprah Special
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l		581 566 102 MTV	Peak Season	After	Real World-Road	l Rules	1 girl 5 gays	Over the Bolts	Peak Season	Peak Season	Real World-Rd

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34 movies&entertainment

Busev expecting first child

Gary Busey and girlfriend Steffanie Sampson are expecting their first child, TVGuide.com has confirmed. "Mr. Busey is thrilled and excited about the upcoming birth of his new son," his publicist Vicki Roberts, said TVGUIDE.COM

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

Inglourious **Basterds DVD** Never mind the critics, the subtitles and Brad Pitt. Quentin Tarantino's gloriously irreverent Second World War epic ups the ante on everything you love about movies — action, drama, suspense, humour, plain badassery, it's all here. And, for the record, it's not Pitt's film. It belongs to one German dude called



Invictus

Christophe Waltz.

FILM When it comes to consistency in Hollywood, Clint Eastwood is as reliable as it gets. In his latest offering, about a game of rugby that united a post-apartheid

South Africa, the director seems to have a winner once again. Matt Damon stars but all the buzz is around Morgan Freeman, who plays Nelson Mandela. Mr. Oscar's taking notes.

Charlotte Gainsbourg CELEBRITY Belle de

jour? You betcha! French pop icon Serge Gainsbourg's daughter made waves earlier this year for her shocking role in Antichrist - a role that



was turned down by bigger names and one that eventually got her the best actress award at Cannes. Now, she's released a hypnotic new album called IRM (MRI in French) in collaboration with Beck. And she doesn't even consider herself an artist.

Spectacle

SERIES The second-season opener of Elvis Costello's music show is quite the spectacle. The British-born, Vancouver resident has locked in Bono and The Edge for the episode, who perform several U2 hits. Spectacle airs today on CTV. Check local listings for times.

The Onion Presents Our Front Pages: 1988-2008

BOOK One of the world's funniest "newspapers" compiles its finest cover pages. Sample headlines: Canada signs nonaggression pact with the United States (1990); New Starbucks opens in rest room of existing Starbucks (1998). Enough said.



Touch Pets: Dogs

P Want a virtual woof? There's an app for that. Get your fingertips wagging with a cuddly canine of your choice with this social game. The app uses uses an energy system. As long as your puppy has been fed and has energy, you collect puppy bucks for participating in training exercises, "career" advancement, play time, and social engagements with other dogs. The "cash" is used to buy new toys and gear for your dog.

Dexter Season 4 Finale TV Kudos to John Lithgow (and the writers) for adding some fresh dramatic blood to this crime series. After a tepid third season, everyone's favourite serial killer (Michael C. Hall as Dexter) met a match in Lithgow's devious Arthur Mitchell. And, if the last few episodes are any indication, the finale will be one big nail biter. Season 4's episode 12 airs Sunday on The Movie Network. Check local listings for times

Mix of Six

The Hours, Kilbourne and the **Evidence**

When: Tonight Where: Palomino Smokehouse - 109 - 7 Ave SW

\$10 cover charge - with 100 per cent of proceeds to Canadian Cancer Society

Tony n' Tina's

Wedding When: Friday & Saturday, 6

Where: Wedding Pavilion – 10817 West Valley Rd. SW

If you enjoy zany nuptials and haven't seen this show you should! Tickets: \$64.95 to \$69.95.

Home: A film by **Yann Arthus-Bertrand**

When: Saturday, Dec. 12, 2:30

Where: Plaza Theatre – 1133 Kensington Rd. NW

Admission is free with non-perishable food item for the Food Bank.

Once upon a

Christmas

When: On until Dec. 20 Where: Heritage Park

Holiday festivities in one of Calgary's favorite historic parks. Family activities include gingerbread decorating and caroling.

A Season of Wonder: The Young Canadians

When: Dec. 12, 7 p.m. Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall

Get in the holiday cheer with one of Calgary's most talented singing and dancing troupes. Tickets: \$22.10.

Canada Olympic Park Weekend Kickoff

When: Saturday Where: COP

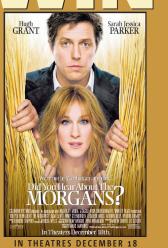
Tons of entertainment at the hill, including the winning entry for the Metro sponsored Design Your Own Snowboard Contest at 2 p.m. Winner gets \$3,500 in snowboard gear from Burton.

Entertainment in brief

AWARD Leonard Cohen and Michael Jackson headline a group who will receive lifetime achievement awards from the Grammvs next year. Bobby Darin, David (Honeyboy) Edwards, Loretta Lynn and Clark Terry will also receive the awards on Jan. 30. The award comes after an eventful year for Cohen, whose world tour produced news when the singer collapsed onstage in Spain and when his Israel show was the subject of protest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ec. Contest closes December 13, ber of entries received. For full





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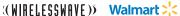


















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Good call

Canonizing teenagers

TeenNick Halo awards pay tribute to amazing feats

At 29, Nick Cannon has been a standup comedian, movie star, TV show host, comedy show star, producer and rapper — he may have Diddy beat for the title of mogul with the most hats

Cannon has been working hard at his latest job, chairman of TeenNick — the younger version of Nickelodeon — that recently became a 24-hour network.

In an interview this week, Cannon talked about the TeenNick Halo Awards, what it's like to be a network chairman, and trading ideas with his wife, Mariah Carey. But he's already mapping out his next job after his entertainment days are over.

"I think after I accomplish what I want to in entertainment, then it's philanthropy — try to make the world a better place," says Cannon, nattily dressed in a gold-colored pinstriped suit.

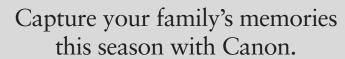
He's getting a head start with the Halo Awards. Instead of yet another



Nick Cannon arrives at the TeenNick HALO Awards in Washington Wednesday. The show airs Friday.

awards show feting celebrities, stars like Justin Timberlake and LeBron James pay tribute to amazing teens doing amazing

things. Alicia Keys and Hayden Panettiere also participate in the show, which premieres Friday at 8 p.m. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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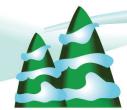


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C100105

38 movies&entertainment



Georgia May Jagger was named Model of the Year at the British Fashion Awards lon Wednesday night, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The 17-year-old is the daughter of Jerry Hall and Mick Jagger. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Is Jessica romancing a Pumpkin? | Alexa Ray's folks

A HAS-BEEN ROCK STAR Jessica Simpson and Smashing Pumpkins frontman Billy Corgan have started dating and are taking things slow, says a source close to the pop star, people.com reports. "They are getting to know each other," says the source. "He's a nice

On Friday, Simpson, 29, and Corgan, 42, were spotted together in New York City. She was in town earlier in the week for sister Ashlee Simpson Wentz's Broadway debut in the musical Chicago.

spirituality Corgan's

Simpson, is a former pas-Tweeted: "My what appeals friend, Billy Corgan, to Simpson. No matter where this On Sept. has Simp-11, who often has spoken about how important God is to her and whose father.

pure and enlightening outlook on faith.

new romance heads, a friend of Simpson's says she is happy that she is dating again — especial-ly after Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo broke up with her the night before her 29th birthday this sum-

'She's a great girl," says her friend. "She's really sweet. She's had a tough year. She deserves the best."

ent can imagine pain the and anguish we face as parents of

a daughter who is working to recover from the dangerous actions she took while suffering a devastating heartbreak.

As much as we hate dignifying tabloid stories with a response, we feel we must set the record straight to protect our family. The story that ran in the New York Post on December 8th, and has been subsequently spread across the Internet, is filled with vicious lies and attempts to smear our character and that of our beloved daugh-METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity tweets

John Maver muses about cheating, Kirstie Alley tries to lead Tiger out of the Woods, Nicole Richie has career advice for Big Bird, and **Hugh Hefner** continues to gross us out. aiohncmave

If a man really wanted to get away with cheating on his woman, he'd store his other girls' name in his phone as "low battery."

- akirstiealley I beg Mr. Woods to REFUSE to pay his extorters.Let em sell their idiot stories Just step up and give \$ to people who really need it.FORGIVEN
- **@nicolerichie** How did Elmo end up the star of Sesame Street? When I was little it was all about Big Bird! Now hes a has-been. He needs a good scandal.
- **@hughhefner** Things are getting serious with Crystal and me. I love the girl. METRO WORLD



Underwood: Romo didn't inspire any of my songs

THERE GO ALL MY 'BEFORE HE CHEATS' THEORIES Carrie Underwood isn't writing any sad songs about ex Tony Romo, usmagazine.com reports. In fact, she assures Esquire magazine that her song Cowboy Casanova was most definitely not about the Dallas Cowboys quarterback.

'No, I would never immortalize a guy that did me wrong,"

says. "I would never give him that much credit."

The American Idol alum dated Romo, 29, in 2007, but by Oct. of that year, she seemed to have had enough.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Levi's Playgirl cover brings in lumpy sales

HANG OUT THERE, LEVI It seems that Levi Johnston's

big old Playgirl.com reveal was a bit flaccid in sales department, popeater.com reports

'Nowhere near enough people paid the \$19.95 to cover the reported \$150,000 the fading brand paid the Alaskan hunk to go rogue," a magazine source tells the website. metro



SHOTS AT TEQUILA San Diego Chargers superstar Shawne Merriman is suing his former girl friend Tila Tequila, claiming she lied about claims Merriman beat her up back in September in an attempt to ruin his career. TMZ.com In the lawsuit, filed in

District Court. Merriman claims Tila



tures drugs in his home.

Merriman also claims in the documents that Tequila admitted her lying scheme, at one time stating, "yes that is why I did a 'spin' now ... cuz now everyone is LOVINGGGG

Merriman was arrested on Sept. 6 after Tequila claimed he beat her up and trapped her in his San Diego home. The charges were eventually dropped "insufficient evi-

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Could Jake be planning a Yuletide proposal?

HE DOES HAVE A NEW MOVIE TO PROMOTE Reese Witherspoon has apparently been a very good girl, because Santa Claus (a.k.a. Jake Gyllenhaal) is supposedly going to pop the question to his gal pal over the holidays, Naughty But Nice is exclusively reporting.

Just days after a false rumor circulated that the cute couple had split, Gyllenhaal apparently decided the time was right to settle down and buy the ring, "Her children love him, his family loves her and now it's time to make it official," a source said.



NFL star claims Tila lied about assault





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lash out at media

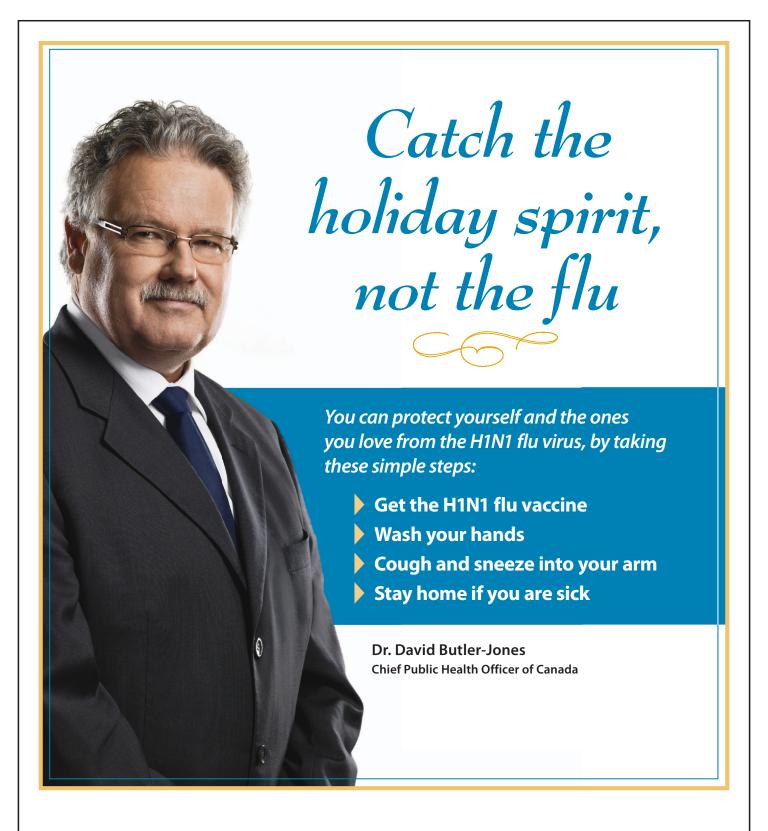
GET WELL SOON, KIDDO In light of some media coverage of their daughter Alexa Ray Joel's recent hospital stay, her parents, Billy Joel and Christie Brinkley, have issued a statement to the media, people.com re-

reads: "Every par-

Jolie excited to take kids to new Disney flick

MICKEY JUST GOT THE BEST PR EVER Heading to the movies this weekend to see Disney's new Princess and the Frog film? There's a chance you might be sitting next to the world's most famous mother, Angelina Jolie.

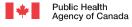
The megastar, who has four children of different ethnic backgrounds, "can't wait to take her children to see Disney's first black princess," a source tells popeater.com. 'Her daughter Z (Zahara) loves playing princess around the house and has watched Brandy's TV version of the musical Cinderella so many times that she knows all the words.



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40 movies&entertainment



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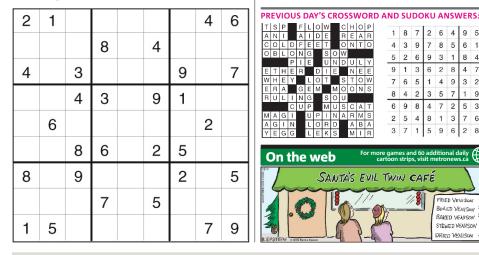


Take Five

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54							55					
56							57					

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



- 1 Exact moment 6 Ducks 12 Sweatshirt
- tvpe 13 Strip 14 Against difficulties
- 15 Starbucks size 16 Mexican mon-
- 17 Rams fans? 19 Dancer Charisse
- 20 Partner 22 Keatsian piece 24 — de deux
- 27 Siamese 29 On the rocks 32 Rare
- 35 Lowly laborer 36 Corner
- 37 Opposite of post-38 Kvetch 40 Took to the
- skies 42 Copper head? 44 Oldies player 46 Status in a hi-
- erarchy 50 Press hard, as

On the web

brakes 52 Fan, and then some

- 54 Maiestic 55 Show hosts 56 "Allakazam!"
- 57 Fists, slangily

1 Vatican VIP

- 2 Ahs' partners 3 Figure of speech
- 4 Goose egg 5 Fundraising show
- 6 Advantage 7 Lefthand page 8 Ortiz of "Ugly
- Betty" 9 Mortarboard's
- opposite? 10 Vortex 11 Start a garden
- 12 Cadence-call syllable
- 18 Gradually disappear
- standstill 23 Noise
- 24 Vim and vigor 25 Chopper

8

4 3 9

9 1 3

7 6 5

6 9 8

2 5 4 8

SANTA'S EVIL TWIN CAFÉ

2

C|H|O|P

26 Old time? 28 Put on a pedestal

- 30 Screw up 31 Coloring agent
- 33 Geneticist's abbr 34 Mamie's hub-
- by
- 39 Common Halloween costume 41 Destruction
- 42 Now, initially 43 Vision problem
- 45 Grooving on 47 Sheltered
- 48 Yeses' undoers
- 49 Gold units (Abbr.)
- 51 Greek consonants

53 Flightless bird

2 6 4 9 5 3

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BOILED VENISON \$7 BAKED VENISON \$9

STEWED VENISON \$9

RIFD VENISON \$8

5 3 1

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Metro Recipe of the Day



Creamy Liver with Leeks and Bacon

INGREDIENTS:

6 strips bacon, chopped 1 lb (500 g) calf's liver, thinly sliced 2/3 lb (300 g) baby leeks, sliced diagonally 2 tsp (10 ml) oil, if needed 1 1/3 cups (325 ml) beef stock

2 tbsp (25 ml) balsamic vinegar 4 tbsp (60 ml) heavy cream

METHOD:

1. Heat wide sauté pan and fry bacon over fairly high heat 4-5 minutes or until golden brown. Lift out with slotted spoon 2. Add liver to pan and fry quickly about 2 minutes per side or until evenly

coloured. Remove and keep hot with bacon. 3 Add leeks to pan, with oil if needed, and fry for 30 seconds, stirring. Stir in stock and heat until boiling. Simmer 2-3 minutes or until leeks are just tender.

4 Stir in balsamic vinegar and return liver and pancetta or bacon to pan. Stir in heavy cream. Bring to boil. Adjust seasoning to taste and serve.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional infor mation on this and other great recipes go to rd.ca or checl out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20 You will get a huge burst of extra energy today as the Sun makes the best possible angle to your ruler Mars.

LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23

This is the kind of day when you will want to get things done, but because others are not so ambitious you may have to go it alone.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21 Family and financial matters

will take up most of your time today but if you knuckle down you won't have to worry about them again for quite some time.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22
You will find it easy enough to convince people to support you today, even if they don't quite believe that you know what you are doing.

GEMINI MAY 22-JUNE 21

If there is something you have done that you are less than proud about now is a good time to own up and get it off vour conscience

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

Some people seem to be under the impression that you will be there for them every hour and every minute of every day.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22 Good news is coming your way and it is the kind of news you

will want to share, so spend time with friends and family and put work plans on hold.

CAPRICORN **DEC 22-JAN 20**

Don't give in too easily today, es pecially on the work front where colleagues and employers will happily take advantage if you don't stand up for yourself.

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

Why is everyone so cautious and fearful? Whatever the reason there is no reason why you should let their negative attitude rub off on you.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18
There is no point dwelling on what might have been and the good news today is that you will be too busy having fun to worry about failures.

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

Don't be afraid to take a few chances today and don't be suspicious if someone in a position of power offers you something you have long desired.

FEB 19-MARCH 20

Today's cosmic alignment can help you break a habit that once held you up but is now holding you back









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MOVIE A

MOVIE R

Star Trek MOVIE B
Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince MOVIE C

The Hangover MOVIE D
X-Men Origin: Wolverine MOVIE E

Angels & Demons MOVIE F
District 9 MOVIE G



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